Corporation has signed a power purchase agreement for Simhadri power project;

(b) if so, the total Megawatt of power to be produced from the project;

(c) whether the Central Electricity Authority has given techno-economic clearance to this project;

(d) if so, the total cost of expenditure to be involved in this project;

(e) whether the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of Japan has agreed to provide a loan to this project; and

(f) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 1000 MW.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has accorded techno-economic clearance to the project in August, 1996.

(d) The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 3650.79 crores at first quarter, 1997 price level.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The project comprises of two units of 500 MW each. The first unit of 500 MW is envisaged to be commissioned within 56 months from Government approval and the second unit 9 months thereafter.

**Housing Schemes**

2700. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes launched for the upliftment of weaker sections during the Eighth Plan, State-wise;

(b) the number of people from weaker sections benefited during the above Plan period, year-wise;

(c) whether all these schemes are proposed to be continued in the Ninth Plan;

(d) whether any new housing scheme is also proposed to be started during the Ninth Plan in addition to the housing schemes launched during the Eighth Plan for the weaker sections; and

(e) if so, the details ot the programme in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Housing is a State subject and State Government are free to formulate housing schemes in accordance with their priorities and available resources. However, housing schemes for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) implemented by the State Government under 20 Point Programme are being monitored by the Central Government. A statement indicating achievement made under these schemes during the 8th Plan is attached statement.

With a view to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, the Central Government has been implementing the following schemes in urban areas :-

**Night Shelter and Sanitation Facilities for Urban Footpath Dwellers** :- Since inception, 56 schemes have been sanctioned, benefitting 60,000 urban footpath dwellers.

**National Network of Building Centres** :- Since inception, a total of 470 building centres have been sanctioned, out of which 250 have become functional. These centres have so tar trained over 78,000 artisans engaged in various construction trades.

**Shelter Upgradation Under NRY and PMI UPEP** :- Since inception and as on 31.1.97, 541 schemes envisaging upgradation of 717863 dwelling units have been sanctioned under NRY. Under PMI UPEP, as on 28.2.97, 12 projects for upgradation of 4636 dwelling units have been sanctioned.

(c) to (e) The 9th Plan has not yet been finalised.

***Statement***

*Achievements made in respect of item No. 14(D), EWS Housing during 8th Five Year Plan*

No. of Dwelling Units

| S.No. | State/UTs. | 1992-93 | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 | 1996-97 (As on Dec.'96) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 43035 | 55424 | 48082 | 55034 | 17985 |
| 2. | Assam | 228 | 294 | 1412 | 771 | 0 |
| 3. | Bihar | 496 | 42 | 0 | 192 | 0 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4. | Goa | 50 | 20 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 2571 | 2445 | 4183 | 2474 | 770 |
| 6. | Haryana | 1182 | 641 | 56 | 31 | 0 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 30 | 30 | 15 | 30 | 23 |
| 8. | Jammu & Kashmir | 2 | 1 | 2 | 11 | 0 |
| 9. | Karnataka | 5564 | 7521 | 7846 | 4572 | 5079 |
| 10. | Kerala | 3152 | 22051 | 19526 | 30373 | 14040 |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | 5895 | 6013 | 5559 | 4254 | 3113 |
| 12. | Maharashtra | 10675 | 4410 | 4987 | 1500 | 1263 |
| 13. | Manipur | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 14. | Meghalaya | 165 | 547 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 15. | Mizoram | 300 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 16. | Orissa | 2271 | 2723 | 5539 | 477 | 2713 |
| 17. | Punjab | 2364 | 421 | 0 | 388 | 415 |
| 18. | Rajasthan | 2494 | 1994 | 1911 | 1382 | 1358 |
| 19. | Sikkim | 50 | 40 | - | 150 | 111 |
| 20. | Tamil Nadu | 12800 | 9948 | 7676 | 7366 | 7974 |
| 21. | Tripura | 92 | 387 | 507 | 0 | 0 |
| 22. | Uttar Pradesh | 17348 | 5122 | 4553 | 3810 | 675 |
| 23. | West Bengal | 150 | 25 | 2000 | 0 | 1649 |
| 24. | A & N Island | 40 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 25. | Daman & Diu | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 26. | Delhi | 3726 | 2686 | 1763 | 831 | 3768 |
| 27. | Pondicherry | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Total | 114680 | 122895 | 116817 | 113646 | 60935 |

*[Translation]*

**LPG to Rural Areas**

2701. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether LPG is provided in rural areas;

(b) if so, the number of villages covered so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) As per the latest policy of the Government, in order to extend LPG marketing to rural areas, all towns in the country with a population of 10,000 and above, offering adequate potential for a commercially viable distributorship after considering the population of adjoining villages within 15 KMs radius, are to be included in the marketing plan under preparation. Large rural complexes with villages of population of 10000 and above as nucleus and rural areas and large towns are also proposed to be included in the marketing plan. Rural areas within the jurisdiction of existing LPG distributorships and persons in rural areas on LPG vouchers issued by Members of Parliament are also being supplied LPG.

*[English]*

**Arrears**

2702. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of rental arrears against Ex-Ministers, Ex-MPs, VIPs and Ex-Bureaucrats outstanding as on March 1, 1997;

(b) the details of rental arrears waived off by the Government and the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of rental arrears recovered during each of the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to recover fully these rental arrears?